## **Internal Revenue Service**

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<u>X</u> =

<u>State</u> = <u>D1</u> = <u>D2</u> = <u>D3</u> = <u>Trust A</u> =

Trust B =

Trust C =

Dear :

This responds to a letter dated September 5, 2013, submitted on behalf of  $\underline{X}$  by its authorized representative, requesting a ruling under § 1362(f) of the Internal Revenue Code.

The information submitted states that  $\underline{X}$  was incorporated under the laws of  $\underline{\text{State}}$  and elected to be an S corporation effective on  $\underline{\text{D1}}$ . In  $\underline{\text{D2}}$ , shares of  $\underline{X}$  were transferred to  $\underline{\text{Trust A}}$ , to  $\underline{\text{Trust B}}$  and to  $\underline{\text{Trust C}}$  (collectively, the "Three Trusts"). Each of the Three Trusts was treated as a wholly-owned grantor trust under §§ 671 and 676. On  $\underline{\text{D3}}$ , the grantor of the Three Trusts ceased to be treated as the owner of the Three Trusts for income tax purposes.

 $\underline{X}$  represents that the Three Trusts were eligible to elect qualified subchapter S trust (QSST) treatment under § 1361(d). However, the respective beneficiaries of the Three Trusts each inadvertently failed to timely make a QSST election. Therefore,  $\underline{X}$ 's S election terminated on D3.

 $\underline{X}$  represents that  $\underline{X}$  and each of its shareholders have filed consistently with the treatment of  $\underline{X}$  as an S corporation since  $\underline{D1}$ .  $\underline{X}$  represents that the termination was not motivated by tax avoidance or retroactive tax planning.  $\underline{X}$  and its shareholders have agreed to make any adjustments that the Commissioner may require, consistent with the treatment of X as an S corporation.

Section 1361(a)(1) of the Code provides that the term "S corporation" means, with respect to any taxable year, a small business corporation for which an election under § 1362(a) is in effect for such year.

Section 1361(b)(1)(B) provides that the term "small business corporation" means a domestic corporation which is not an ineligible corporation and which does not have as a shareholder a person (other than an estate, a trust described in § 1361(c)(2), or an organization described in § 1361(c)(6)) who is not an individual.

Section 1361(c)(2)(A)(i) provides that, for purposes of § 1361(b)(1)(B), a trust all of which is treated (under subpart E of part I of subchapter J of chapter 1) as owned by an individual who is a citizen or resident of the United States may be an S corporation shareholder.

Section 1361(d)(1) provides that in the case of a QSST for which a beneficiary makes an election under  $\S$  1361(d)(2), the trust is treated as a trust described in  $\S$  1361(c)(2)(A)(i), and for purposes of  $\S$  678(a), the beneficiary of the trust shall be treated as the owner of that portion of the trust that consists of stock in an S corporation with respect to which the election under  $\S$  1361(d)(2) is made.

Section 1361(d)(2)(A) provides that a beneficiary of a QSST may elect to have § 1361(d) apply. Section 1.1361-1(j)(6)(ii) provides that the current income beneficiary of a QSST must make the election under § 1361(d)(2) by signing and filing with the service center with which the corporation files its income tax returns the applicable form or a statement including the information listed in § 1.1361-1(j)(6)(ii).

Section 1362(d)(2) provides that (A) in general, an election under § 1362(a) shall be terminated whenever (at any time on or after the first day of the first taxable year for which the corporation is an S corporation) such corporation ceases to be a small business corporation, and (B) any termination under § 1362(d)(2) shall be effective on and after the date of cessation.

Section 1362(f) provides, in part, that if (1) an election under § 1362(a) by any corporation (A) was not effective for the taxable year for which made (determined without regard to § 1362(b)(2)) by reason of a failure to meet the requirements of § 1361(b) or to obtain shareholder consents or (B) was terminated under § 1362(d)(2) or (3), (2) the Secretary determines that the circumstances resulting in the ineffectiveness or termination were inadvertent, (3) no later than a reasonable period of

time after discovery of the circumstances resulting in the ineffectiveness or termination, steps were taken (A) so that the corporation is a small business corporation or (B) to acquire the shareholder consents, and (4) the corporation and each person who was a shareholder of the corporation at any time during the period specified pursuant to § 1362(f), agrees to make such adjustments (consistent with the treatment of the corporation as an S corporation) as may be required by the Secretary with respect to such period, then, notwithstanding the circumstances resulting in the ineffectiveness or termination, the corporation will be treated as an S corporation during the period specified by the Secretary.

Based solely on the facts submitted and the representations made, we conclude that  $\underline{X}$ 's S corporation election terminated on  $\underline{D3}$ , because of the inadvertent failure of the beneficiaries of the Three Trusts to make QSST elections, and that this termination of  $\underline{X}$ 's S election was an inadvertent termination within the meaning of § 1362(f). Accordingly, pursuant to the provisions of § 1362(f),  $\underline{X}$  will be treated as continuing to be an S corporation from  $\underline{D3}$  and thereafter, provided  $\underline{X}$ 's S corporation election was valid and not otherwise terminated under § 1362(d).

This ruling is contingent upon the respective beneficiaries of each of the Three Trusts filing QSST elections, with an effective date of  $\underline{D3}$ , with the appropriate service center within 120 days of the date of this ruling. A copy of this letter should be attached to the QSST election. If  $\underline{X}$  or its shareholders fail to treat  $\underline{X}$  as described above, this letter ruling will be null and void.

Except as specifically set forth above, no opinion is expressed concerning the federal tax consequences of the facts described above under any other provision of the Code, including whether  $\underline{X}$  is a small business corporation under § 1361(b), or whether  $\underline{Trust}$  is a QSST within the meaning of § 1361(d)(3).

This ruling is directed only to the taxpayer that requested it. Section 6110(k)(3) provides that it may not be used or cited as precedent. Pursuant to a power of attorney on file, a copy of this letter is being sent to  $\underline{X}$ 's authorized representative.

Sincerely,

Bradford R. Poston Senior Counsel, Branch 2 Office of the Associate Chief Counsel (Passthroughs & Special Industries)

Enclosures: 2

Copy of this letter

Copy for § 6110 purposes